

1 34. (New) The device of claim 33, wherein the first information tag is an optical
2 target, the second information tag is a radio (RF) tag, and the first processing circuit generates
3 the information from an image of the first information tag.

1 35. (New) The device of claim 34, wherein the optical target is an optical bar code.

1 36. (New) The device of claim 33, further comprising:
2 a manual selector switch that, depending upon a setting, individually enables or
3 disables the first processing circuit and the second processing circuit.

1 37. (New) The device of claim 33, further comprising:
2 an automatic backup circuit that initiates a communication between the second
3 processing circuit and the second information tag if the information is not generated
4 within a predetermined interval of time.

1 38. (New) The device of claim 33, further comprising:
2 a corruption detection circuit, coupled to the first processing circuit, that signals
3 the first processing circuit to generate new information when the corruption detection
4 circuit detects that the information is corrupt.

1 39. (New) The device of claim 33, wherein the information comprises identification
2 data corresponding to the second information tag.

1 40. (New) The device of claim 33, wherein the information comprises location data
2 corresponding to the second information tag.

1 41. (New) The device of claim 33, wherein the second information tag stores a
2 plurality of data sets, each data set associated with a plurality of goods associated with the
3 second information tag, selected from the following group of data sets:

4 a source of the goods;
5 a destination of the goods;
6 an inventory of the goods;
7 a shelf-life of the goods;
8 a current temperature of the goods;
9 a preferred storage temperature of the goods;
10 biological sensor data for the goods; and
11 pressure sensor data for the goods.

2 42. (New) An identification system for goods stored by a carrier unit, comprising:
3 a temporary carrier unit for storing articles of commerce;
4 a plurality of goods stored on the carrier unit;
5 a first information tag disposed on the carrier unit;
6 a second information tag disposed on the carrier unit, wherein the second
7 information tag is of a different type than the first information tag; and
8 a device that reads the first information tag and the second information tag, the
9 device comprising:
10 an antenna;
11 an first processing circuit that generates information from the first
12 information tag; and
13 a second processing circuit, coupled to the antenna, that utilizes the
 information to communicate with the second information tag.

1 43. (New) The identification system of claim 42, wherein the first information tag is
2 an optical target, the second information tag is a radio (RF) tag, and the first processing circuit
3 generates the information from an image of the first information tag.

1 44. (New) The identification system of claim 43, wherein the optical target is an
2 optical bar code.

1 45. (New) The identification system of claim 42, the device further comprising:
2 a manual selector switch that, depending upon a setting, individually enables or
3 disables the first processing circuit and the second processing circuit.

1 46. (New) The identification system of claim 42, the device further comprising:
2 an automatic backup circuit that initiates a communication between the second
3 processing circuit and the second information tag if the information is not generated
4 within a predetermined interval of time.

1 47. (New) The identification system of claim 42, the device further comprising:
2 a corruption detection circuit, coupled to the first processing circuit, that signals
3 the first processing circuit to generate new information when the corruption detection
4 circuit detects that the information is corrupt.

1 48. (New) The identification system of claim 42, wherein the information comprises
2 identification data corresponding to the second information tag.

1 49. (New) The identification system of claim 42, wherein the information comprises
2 location data corresponding to the second information tag.

1 50. (New) The identification system of claim 42, wherein the second information tag
2 stores a plurality of data sets, each data set associated with a plurality of goods associated with
3 the second information tag, selected from the following group of data sets:

- 4 a source of the goods;
- 5 a destination of the goods;
- 6 an inventory of the goods;
- 7 a shelf-life of the goods;
- 8 a current temperature of the goods;
- 9 a preferred storage temperature of the goods;
- 10 biological sensor data for the goods; and

11 pressure sensor data for the goods.

1 51. (New) A method of communicating between a reader device and a carrier unit,
2 wherein the carrier unit includes a plurality of goods stored therewith, includes a first
3 information tag disposed thereon, and includes a second information tag disposed thereon,
4 wherein the second information tag is of a different type than the first information tag, and
5 wherein the reader device includes a first processing circuit for reading the first information tag,
6 the method comprising the steps of:

7 reading the first information tag using the reader device;

8 establishing communication between the reader device and the second
9 information tag based upon information received from the reading of the first information
10 tag; and

11 receiving at the reader device from the second information tag status information
12 corresponding to the carrier unit.

1 52. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein the first information tag is an optical
2 target, the second information tag is a radio (RF) tag, and the reader device reads the information
3 from an image of the first information tag.

1 53. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the optical target is an optical bar code.

1 54. (New) The method of claim 51, wherein the status information comprises status
2 information for the plurality of goods.

1 55. (New) The method of claim 51, further comprising the steps of:

2 transmitting new status information from the reader unit to the second information
3 tag; and

4 storing the new status information on the second information tag.

1 56. (New) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of transmitting from